

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 068344  
ORIGIN L-03

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DRAFTED BY L:RDKERNEY:DF

APPROVED BY L:RDKEARNEY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HAMBURG

UNCLAS STATE 068344

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, OTRA, AFIN, UNCITRAL, GW

SUBJECT: UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON CARRIAGE OF GOODS  
BY SEA

SUMMARY: RELATIONSHIP OF LIMITATION AMOUNT TO VISBY  
AMENDMENTS.

FOLLOWING IS EXTRACT FROM A LETTER RECEIVED FROM JOHN C.  
MOORE REGARDING RECALCULATION OF THE LIMIT OF LIABILITY  
IN THE VISBY AMENDMENT ON THE BASIS OF SPECIAL DRAWING  
RIGHTS AND THE EFFECT OF INFLATION:

"REGARDING THE LIMITATION AMOUNT IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING  
THAT AT THE TIME OF THE VISBY AMENDMENTS THE FR. P. WAS  
WORTH \$.0663 SO THAT 30 POINCARE FRANCS PER KILOGRAM  
CORRESPONDED TO 90 CENTS PER POUND. THE SDR DID NOT EXIST  
AT THAT TIME.

"BEFORE THE MONTREAL AMENDMENT OF THE WARSAW CONVENTION  
THE DEVALUATION OF THE DOLLAR FROM \$35 TO \$42 PER OUNCE  
OF GOLD RESULTED IN A VALUE OF \$.08 PER FR. POINCARE.  
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PAGE 02 STATE 068344

-CONVERSION AT MONTREAL OF SDR L EQUALS FR. P. 1  
THE CONVERSION AT MONTREAL OF SDR 1 EQUALS FR. P. 14.7 OR  
FR. P. 15 CORRESPONDING TO A VALUE OF FR. P. 1 EQUALS \$.08.  
FR. P. 30 PER KG. AT .08 MEANS A LIMITATION OF \$2.40  
PER KG. OR \$1.09 PER POUND.

"THESE FIGURES ARE THE REASON WHY I WOULD URGE THAT WE TRY

TO BEGIN AND END AT SDR 2 PER KILOGRAM, EQUIVALENT TO  
\$.09 PER POUND. THAT WOULD BE IN KEEPING WITH THE DIS-  
CUSSION WE HAD ON FEBRUARY 15, THAT SOME CONCESSION SHOULD  
BE MADE IN EXCHANGE FOR THE REMOVAL OF CERTAIN DEFENSES.  
IT DOES SEEM TO ME THAT IF WE GO BEYOND SDR 2 PER KILO-  
GRAM THERE IS NO LOGICAL STOPPING PLACE AND THE ESULT  
MIGHT BE A LIMITATION FIGURE SO HIGH AS TO MAKE INSURANCE  
EXTREMELY EXPENSIVE." VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Drafter:** RDKERNEY:DF  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Subject:** UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY SEA SUMMARY: RELATIONSHIP OF LIMITATION AMOUNT TO VIS  
**TAGS:** OCON, OTRA, AFIN, GE, UNCITRAL  
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